

Observer's Observations.

We notice by the newspapers that nearly all the towns of Missouri, and nearly too, for that matter, are getting ready for the census next year, by each extending its corporate limits around a lot of adjacent territory. They hope to be doubly the gainers by this move, in that: that in the first place it will mean that a heavily increased assessment for taxes, and in the next place it will help them enormously to show up in population for the next 10 years. St. Joseph hopes to increase her population some 5,000 or 10,000 in this way, and many of the smaller cities and towns hope to increase theirs by from 100 to 200 or 400. Reading of the proposition of these other cities and towns, put us to thinking, and we instinctively said to ourselves: "What about Oregon?" Of course there are a good many bridges around our town that the county now must keep up, which we ourselves would have to maintain were we to extend our limits around the adjacent territory, including such bridges. But still, we would have an increased revenue to keep them up with. And besides the county court has more bridges than it can keep up any way, without those so near to our town. We could extend eastward beyond the Kunkul mills and westward beyond the poor house, and the intervening country would add at least 100 to our population and about \$100,000 to our assessed valuation. This matter is worth considering at least, before the census enumerators are abroad in the land again.

We met a member of the Oregon school board yesterday and he said, "do you know that the Oregon schools are crowded more this year than they have been since Prof. Hill left here?" We confessed our ignorance upon the subject, and he assured us that such was the case. He said, "there are more strange faces in the different rooms of our school this year than there have been for a good many years," and continuing said that if the thing continues in this way, the school board will have to provide more room and hire another teacher before the Christmas holidays. He said that a room could be belittled up in the mansard story without very much expense, and that this would likely be done.

We were talking with Squire Laughlin a few days ago, and he tells us that he thinks very seriously of resigning his justice of the peace office, and removing with his family to his farm near Furber. We are sorry to hear this, for as we had understood it Giles was getting a good business built up, and we always felt a pride in young men who had stuck to it, even sufficient to commence at the bottom as Giles did, and build up a business for himself, and especially in so difficult a profession as that of the law. And another reason we were sorry to hear that he thought of leaving, was that we had hoped to see him Oregon's next year—and only next spring will be the election, too. However, if he must go, we wish him God speed, and hope that he will not have the same experience that Colonel Switzer, of the Missouri Statesman, once told us that the great Edward Bates (formerly of St. Louis, and attorney general of the United States in Lincoln's first cabinet) did. He said that Bates told him that he (Bates) tried farming and in fact practiced law for awhile, and in fact probably at the same time more or less mixed the two callings together, and it was Bates's experience that "it took about all the money Lawyer Bates could make to keep Farmer Bates a going."

We met John F. Shipley, of Mound City, on our street, and he tells us that he was telling us of his good fortune amongst the lead mines of Southern Missouri. He had a lot of samples in his pocket that he said he had picked up in the bed of a creek that ran through a 400-acre tract that he owned down there and for 120 acres of which a New York syndicate had already offered him \$100,000. John says he has spent almost the entire past summer down there, and that the country is being literally overrun with people in search of wealth. Some lands that but a few months ago were going at \$1.25 per acre, and slow sale at that, are now snapped up in a twinkling at \$100 per acre, and in some cases even more than this is being paid. He says that Joplin, Carthage, Webb City and many other towns that, but a few years ago were small and unimportant places, are now great flourishing cities, filled to their utmost capacity with people and surrounded on all sides with families in tents, who are unable to get houses to shelter them. We see also by the newspaper reports that these things are true, and that even "Gen." Coxe, the erstwhile great leader of the "Coxey army," is there, and is likely to be soon made a millionaire. He has bought vast acres, and found very rich mines, and instead of being a leader of tramps, as he was during the last Democratic administration, is now fast becoming one of the despised "plutocrats."

A MYSTERY.

Body of a Dead Man Found in a Hedge on the old Strother Moore Place, Just South of Mound City.

On last Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1899, the body of a dead man was found in a hedge on the old Strother Moore place, just south of Mound City, on the public road, by Carl and Clarence Houston, who are living on the place, and who were gathering corn.

A description is impossible, as the flesh had dropped from the bones, and the clothing had rotted so badly that the original color could not be ascertained. Two pocket books were found, but there was nothing in them, not even a scrap of paper that would lead to identification. Two collar buttons were also found, but they were made by a maker in the neighborhood, and the maker could not be determined. The body, or skeleton rather, is that of a man about 6 feet in height, and his age was estimated at 35 to 40 years. The body had probably been lying where it was found for two or three months.

The impression seems to prevail that the man was murdered and the body carried to where it was found in order to secrete it and cover up the crime, until the party or parties who committed the deed had ample time to get away. No one is missing in Mound City or the neighborhood, so it is thought that he was traveling through the country, and met some of the thoughtless gang that are constantly roaming from one place to another, or perhaps was a member of one of these outlaws, and was engaged in a quarrel and was killed, or was killed for some other reason.

Coroner Davis held an inquest Wednesday, the jury bringing in a verdict of cause of death unknown.

The Revised Statutes.

Hon. S. F. O'Fallon, member of the revision committee, has at home in Jefferson City, over Sunday. He is a member of the revision committee, one of the most important committees of the work. They are working, night and day, in order to get them out. We have had numerous inquiries in regard to this work, so we "cornered" Sam and secured a great deal of information, which will prove of interest to our readers. He said in substance: "Under our constitution the statutes of the state must be revised every ten years, and this duty devolved upon the 4th General Assembly. Few persons have any idea of the amount of time or labor required to complete the revision of the laws. The first time it was done, in the first place, all laws passed since the last revision, and now in force, including the laws of the 49th General Assembly, must be called and harmonized, and in case of doubt compared with the enrolled bill on file in the office of secretary of State.

This work must be very carefully done, so as not to include sections that are repealed, or which have been declared unconstitutional, and each of the ten thousand sections goes through several hands before the compilation is complete. The work of annotation is very much greater than it was in 1889, as there are now 45 volumes more in the Supreme Court Reports, and about the same of the Courts of Appeal published since the last revision. Only a small part of the notes on the last revision could be used, as many of the cases have been overruled or the statutes changed in some particular—so that the old citation is not now appropriate. The revision of 1889 will be in two volumes—the first volume will be about the same size as the volumes of 1889. It will contain sixty-five chapters, about five hundred pages, and about four hundred sections. The second volume will contain about two hundred chapters, about five hundred pages, and about four hundred sections. The first volume will contain all the laws in frequent use—such as Administration, Corporation, Civil Procedure, Justice of the Peace, etc. Each volume will be arranged alphabetically and have a separate index. It was expected that the first volume would be ready for delivery about November 1st, but it will probably be out until two or three weeks later, as the committee intend to try to index the statutes this time, so that either a lawyer or layman can find any thing contained in them, for it is a well known fact that with the present index, neither lawyer nor layman can find what he wants. As an illustration, what is known as the "Stock Law" is indexed under the head of Animals, and so where else. Take another case—Glanders—Horses—is indexed under the head of University, and so where else. It should have been indexed under the head of Horses—Veterinary and not university. The present index will probably contain over a thousand and principal heads, so that the subject of each section can be indexed under each head where any one would probably look for it. This will probably require an average of about five cross references to each section or about twenty-five hundred index cards, making about one hundred and sixty pages of index in each volume. This is a most important work of the committee, and as this revision will stand for ten years, it should be done carefully and critically, so as to insure the greatest accuracy possible. The statutes will cost three dollars per set and there will be fifteen thousand sets printed.

Type-setting machines are used in the printing—running night and day, but on account of many kinds and sizes of type used, they are only able to furnish about thirty pages of proof a day, which is read by five or six different persons to detect errors.

The commissioning of the work of revision on Dec. 27, 1889, and since the work is more than one third greater than ten years ago, we expect to complete it in about the same time. I feel sure that the revision of 1889, while far from perfect, will be a very great improvement over that of 1889.

The annotations are brought down to date, including the 17th Supreme Court, and the 7th Appeal Reports.

More About Roads and Bridges.

The time has come when a good deal of work is being done on our roads, but for that matter, this makes a great demand for all kinds of country produce, as well as for beefsteak, pork and flour, and for that reason there is a great demand in the cities for eggs and all other kinds of country produce and the prices are so high there that it makes the prices high here, too. Some three years ago, under a Democratic administration, when the laboring people in the cities were out of employment you could hardly sell eggs here at any price, and the people in the country who brought them in were to sell off and had to give them away, or haul them back home. Now it is very different. Just a few days ago we noticed in one of the papers that a whole train load of eggs, worth some \$30,000, had just been shipped east in one lot from Topeka, Kas., and hundreds of other car loads from all over the country are being shipped to the cities and con-

Special Bargains.

Two cases good heavy Outing Flannel, remnants, the 10c grade at 7 1-2 cts per yard.

Three cases good Calico suitable for Dresses, Comforts, Etc., at 3 1-2 cts per yard.

Two cases, yard wide, Unbleached Muslin at 3 1-2 cts per yard.

The best 16-oz Cotton Bat for Comforts in the city on sale at 10c each.

Our new fall stock is now complete. Comprising all the latest styles known to Dame Fashion. To the citizens of Oregon and vicinity, we give you a cordial invitation to call and inspect our new fall lines before making your purchases. Get our cash prices. We allow no one to undersell us. Economical shoppers will find much to interest them in rare bargains from now on.

Ladies' Jackets, Suits, Etc

Our stock is too large, styles too varied to undertake description. Suffice it is to say, we have the choicest line ever carried. Prices range from \$5 up to \$20.

Dress Goods and Silks.

We enjoy the distinction of absolute leaders in Dress Goods and Silks. Space will only permit a few items from each department.

One lot 42-inch Serge in Red, Navy Blue and Black, worth 35c, until closed out 25c per yard.

Choice line of Camels hair plaids for Skirts in all colors at 50c and up to \$1.65 per yard.

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G. W. CUMMINS,

OREGON, MISSOURI

There are 1,000 students in the state university of Missouri.

Daniel Kunkel, the second, has returned from his Howell county trip.

L. L. Moore and George Seaman were in St. Joseph, Monday of this week.

Uncle Billy Bradfield is building a new porch on the south and west side of his residence.

There has been a whole lot of matter with Kansas, and in view of that, the state of Missouri is well advised to acknowledge the same.

Andrew Tschertman has the contract for having the supply pipe into the water tank. Andy, do a good job, we do not want this pipe to freeze and burst if it did last winter.

Mrs. John Chapple, of Troy, Kan., accompanied by her two children, were called here last week by the serious illness of her step father, J. D. Burk, of the Richmond district, north of New Point.

If you are going to bring wool on subscription, you must do so by the 1st of October. If you do not, you will have to buy wool, do not wait until the best is all sold, and if not sold the roads will be in such a condition that it cannot be handled. Bring it in now.

The Missouri State University's enrollment for this year exceeds one thousand, the largest in its history. If the Missouri University had the attendance which a State University conducted along proper lines in Missouri would have, it would have 2,000.

Ed. Hays, formerly editor of the Democrat, (now defunct) of this city, but now editor of the DeKalb Tribune, published in DeKalb, Arkansas, has published this series of stories on the St. Joseph Journal. W. L. Moorehead, editor of the Hopkins Journal, won second prize, \$75; John F. Case, editor, third prize, \$25; W. L. Moorehead, fourth prize, \$25; Dearborn Democrat, James Watson, editor, fifth prize, \$25; West, a new fact daily train to Denver, leaving Central Missouri and Missouri River cities at night arriving at Denver 6:20 p. m. the next day. Direct via St. Joseph and Southern Nebraska.

This service is entirely additional to the Burlington's great scheme of passenger train service to the West and Northwest.

California Excursions every Thursday morning. Tourist sleepers Tuesdays and Thursdays, St. Joseph to Seattle, via Billings route.

For details, ask your ticket agent or Geo. D. Witt, L. W. Vailley, Geo. P. A., St. Joseph, Mo. or Howard Elliott, VINE HOOK, General Manager, St. Joseph, Mo.

THE NEBRASKA-COLORADO EXPRESS, A NEW TRAIN.

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Mrs. G. W. Cummins, who has been quite sick, is now very much better.

The Misses Harbison and Kennon will have their fall opening Oct. 3, 1899.

Ed. Pinkston, of Maitland, was down Tuesday, looking after business interests.

Take your apples to the canning factory, and you will find ready sale for them.

The Misses Edith Coleman and Lucy Bantz have enrolled at the dress and fitting school, this week.

Mr. Joe. Leitz, who has been in St. Joseph at work all summer, is at New Point for a short sojourn.

The first fall of snow in Michigan fell at Chelsea, Sep. 25, the thickest one registering below the freezing point.

At New Point on the night of Sep. 25, we formed—also at J. R. Brown's in the Mill Creek neighborhood, just south of town.

John S. Smith, Jacob Greenbeck and Charles Kees, of Maitland, Mo., were looking after business interests in Oregon, Thursday of this week.

E. M. Norman and wife left today, Friday, for Des Moines, Iowa, where they will attend the annual and visit with relatives for a couple of weeks.

Vera Freeman, who has been visiting with her father, F. P. Freeman, and sister Grace in this city, for several weeks, returned to her home in Chicago last week.

The students of the high school have organized a literary society, called the "Phi-Kappa." Albert Keesman, president, and John Keesman, secretary.

The Oregon Literary Union, which was organized to make a book sale to help the students of the high school, will have their book sale at the home of Mrs. J. R. Brown, on Friday, Oct. 1, 1899.

Mrs. Anna Bennett is visiting with her father, F. P. Freeman, and sister Grace in this city, for several weeks, returned to her home in Chicago last week.

The sale of the Texas Western, of the week ending Sep. 25, has been declared off, some thirty running up to \$100 and the balance of the sale.

Grand Hotel and wife and Mrs. M. A. Moore, who have been visiting in St. Joseph, returned to their home in Chicago last week.

Master Isaac Smith, who has been making the home with Mrs. K. H. Smith, returned to his home in Chicago last week.

The President's return is being posted along as fast as possible, but it is not likely it will be ready for publication until the 1st of October.

County court was in session Monday and Tuesday of this week, as a result of appeals from the circuit court, and before them with complaints that the record had been tampered with. Only a few appeals were presented.

Dr. J. H. Wilson, of Forest City, has sold his property in that city and will remove to Amazonia, this week. Dr. Wilson is an old land mark, having set out the city of St. Joseph, Mo. He has been one of the leading citizens of the city, always ready and willing to do anything that would help to advance and enhance the city's interests. We wish him and his family success in their new home.

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